

NORTHERN PANHANDLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
May 10, 2018
10:00 a.m.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

Ed Huff, Hancock County
Charles Pugh, Hancock County
James Caldwell, Brooke County, Chairman
Steve Paull, Brooke County, Vice-Chairman
Robert Luchetti, Ohio County
David McCardle, Marshall County, Secretary
Mark Fitzsimmons, Marshall County

SUPERVISORS ABSENT:

Cele Duvall, Ohio County, Treasurer

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR PRESENT:

Betty Schafer, Marshall County
Ruth Milliken, Marshall County

OTHERS PRESENT:

Veronica Gibson, District Manager, WVCA
Jennifer Kile, Conservation Specialist, WVCA
Kim Fisher, Are Director, WVCA
Katie Fitzsimmons, District Conservationist, NRCS
Toni Reynolds, District Coordinator, NPCD
Ed Hanson, NRCS
J.L., CED, FSA
Britney Hervey-Farris, Brooke County
Jim Anderson, Hancock County
David Shipman, Agriculture Program Assistant Marshall County, WVU Extension

Chairman James Caldwell called the meeting to order on Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in McMechen, WV.

James Caldwell introduced Britney Hervey-Farris. Britney won the election for the open supervisor position for Brooke County.

Minutes:

Charles Pugh made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 2018 Board meeting as presented. Seconded by Mark Fitzsimmons. Motion passed.

Financial Report:

Cele Duvall was absent from the meeting. The April financials will be tabled until the June board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Equipment:

- James Caldwell received a phone call from Greg Capito of Hancock County regarding repairs needed to the no-till drill that Greg felt he could make. James told Greg to make repairs as necessary. Mark Fitzsimmons asked if the no-till drill should be taken somewhere to get checked over. The district has an agreement with Knight's Farm Supply for equipment.
- Mark Fitzsimmons reported that a tire needed repair on the Cricket spreader. Knight's Farm Supply repaired the rim of the tire.

USDA Building Complex:

- Landscaping around the building needs attended to. The boxwoods have all died and there are a lot of weeds. There was a discussion that the rock salt that is used in the winter has possibly killed the boxwoods. A soil test will be done to make sure that there is not a problem with the soil. **Mark Fitzsimmons made a motion to have the district crew remove the boxwoods and pull the weeds. Seconded by David McCardle. Motion passed.** A decision will be made regarding replacing the boxwoods after the soil test results are received.
- There was a discussion regarding the gutters on the equipment building and where to have the gutters drain.
- Per Toni Reynolds, Keith Pyles has said he needs the garage doors before he can move forward to complete the front of the building. Bids are needed to compare costs for garage doors. Both bays will have concrete.

Education:

Mark Fitzsimmons reported the following:

- An invoice for the use of the soil trailer was received. The amount of the invoice is \$800 (4 days at \$200 per day). Heavy winds caused the flowers that were on top of the trailer to fall off and become damaged. **Mark Fitzsimmons made a motion to pay \$800 for the use of the soil trailer and to include an additional \$100 for the cost of replacing the flowers that were damaged. Seconded by David McCardle. Motion passed.** The payment will come from the Soil Survey account. Steve Mitch and David Shipman helped the supervisors with the soil trailer presentation along with Gary Dean, Toni Reynolds and Veronica Gibson.
- District of the Year due to the WVACD at the WVACD quarterly meeting in July.
- One raised bed is open in the high tunnel for planting for the 4th graders in Center McMechen and Glen Dale Elementary. Mark is unable to do this project. He asked for a volunteer from the board to handle this project. It should be scheduled for the week of May 21. David McCardle will take care of this.
- WV Envirothon – Kim Clark's team from John Marshall High School placed ninth at the WV Envirothon. There was a discussion regarding our local teams not participating in training provided before the WV Envirothon. **Mark Fitzsimmons made a motion that the District will help the participating team's school financially for the WV Envirothon only if they attend an official WV Envirothon training prior to the event. Seconded by Robert Luchetti. Motion passed.**

Watershed:

- Work order for Middle Grave Creek Channel has been approved. Work will start immediately.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee for NPCD Officers:

- James Caldwell appointed Robert Luchetti, Stephen Paull and David McCardle as the nominating committee for the election of officers for the District board. The committee will meet after the board meeting. The nominations will be voted on at the beginning of the July board meeting.

Poster Judging:

- Judging for the poster contest was held. There were two posters that will be submitted for the state poster contest.

WV Senior Conservation Camp:

- **Mark Fitzsimmons made a motion to support the WV Senior Conservation Camp with a monetary donation of \$1,600. Seconded by Ed Huff. Motion passed.** The payment will come from the Conservation District Operations account.

NPCD Plan of Work – Due June 15:

- A NPCD Plan of Work meeting will be held on May 24, 10:00 a.m.

National Cooperative Soil Survey's NE Region Conference:

- The NE Region Conference for the National Cooperative Soil Survey will be held in Summersville, WV, June 24-28. **Mark Fitzsimmons made a motion to support the National Cooperative Soil Survey's NE Region Conference with monetary support of \$200. Seconded by David McCardle. Motion passed.** The payment will come from the soil survey account.

WVU Soils Team National Collegiate Soils Contest:

- The WVU Soils Team requested financial support for the National Collegiate Soils Contest to be held in Martin, TN. **Mark Fitzsimmons made a motion to support the WVU Soils Team with a monetary donation of \$100. Seconded by David McCardle. Motion passed.** The payment will come from the soil survey account.

John Marshall High School High Tunnel Support:

- An email was received from a class at John Marshall High School regarding a high tunnel. It was not clear what the students were requesting. A response will be sent requesting additional information.

Blue Stream Farms Support:

- An email was received from Doug Velegol of Blue Stream Farms. The email included letters of support from schools of the northern panhandle and the Ohio County Board of Education. **Robert Luchetti made a motion to table the topic of support for Blue Stream Farms until it is a working program with proof of financial support. Seconded by Mark Fitzsimmons. Motion passed.**

WVU Extension – Marshall County – Stockpile, Grazing and Forage Sampling Class:

- David Shipman presented an upcoming class to tentatively be held June 9 at 10:00 a.m. A location has not been established. Suggestions of a local farm would be appreciated. Lunch

will be provided for the event. **Mark Fitzsimmons made a motion to provide lunch for the event of up to \$10 per person. Seconded by David McCardle. Motion passed.**

- David thought the soil trailer was great. The District appreciated David’s help.

NPCD Conservation Farms:

- The district will not participate in the state judging. The district will select a farm winner from each county and will recognize the farm family at the district’s annual banquet.

Letters of Request:

- \$77,000.00 – FY19 AgEP
- \$15,975.00 – FY19 CD Supervisor Travel & Per Diem – 1st Allotment
- \$11,411.00 – FY19 CD Supervisor Travel & Per Diem – 2nd Allotment
- \$11,411.00 – FY 19 CD Supervisor Travel & Per Diem – 3rd Allotment
- \$ 6,847.00 – FY 19 CD Supervisor Travel & Per Diem – 4th Allotment
- \$19,000.00 – FY19 CD Operating Grants – 1st Allotment
- \$ 6,634.00 – FY19 CD Operating Grants – 2nd Allotment
- \$ 6,633.00 – FY19 CD Operating Grants – 3rd Allotment
- \$ 6,633.00 – FY19 CD Operating Grants – 4th Allotment

David McCardle made a motion to sign and submit the letters of request listed above. Seconded by Mark Fitzsimmons. Motion passed.

Ag Enhancement Program:

Jennifer Kile reviewed the date for the first round of FY19. Applications will be accepted May 14 through June 8.

- Payment

Name	Practice	Amount	Cost Share
Gerald Hawkins	Lime	32.16 tons	\$694.66
David Porter	Lime	99.96 tons	\$2,159.14
Alice Joann Toth	Pasture Division Fence (Woven Wire)	1,972 feet	\$4,673.64
Audra Conkle	Lime	52.76 tons	\$1,123.79
Scott Harris	Exclusion Fence (High Tensile)	1,668 feet	\$2,913.75
James E. Morgan	Lime	15.31 tons	\$248.02

Total \$11,813.00

Ed Huff made a motion to approve the completed practices listed above. Seconded by David McCardle. Motion passed.

- Cancellations

Name	Practice	Cost Share Approved	Reason
Betsy Fanase	Exclusion Fence	\$5,214.00	Landowner Request
John (Jay) Bierce	Water System	\$2,036.48	Landowner Request

Total \$7,250.48

David McCardle made a motion to cancel the contracts listed above. Seconded by Mark Fitzsimmons. Motion passed.

- Denied Applications

Name	Practice	Reason
Terry Evans	Lime	Did not meet all application requirements
David Poling	Forage Reseeding	Did not meet all application requirements

Mark Fitzsimmons made a motion to deny the applications listed above. Seconded by Ed Huff. Motion passed.

- A special meeting will be held on June 25 at 10:00 a.m. to clear out FY18.

Correspondence

Secretary David McCardle reviewed the following correspondence: 1) Two WV DEP pending mine permits.

Reports

WVCA, Kim Fisher, Area Director

- Monthly report was given to each supervisor.
- New supervisor training will be held immediately following the WVACD quarterly meeting on July 12 and will continue July 13 and end at noon.
- A committee has been formed to create an updated supervisor handbook and should be available by January of next year.
- House Bill 4015 states that any vehicle with the green and white state plates will expire on December 31. The District needs to contact the DMV regarding how to get a new plate and when they will be available.

FSA, J.L. Tennant, CED

- Reviewed all current and continuing programs.

NRCS, Katie Fitzsimmons, District Conservationist

- Reviewed written field office report.
- Ed Hanson returned to work on April 17 as a part time employee. He will work on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.
- A summer student will start next month.
- Went to Cameron Elementary school to present Soily Sam. Jennifer Kile and Brielle Menendez also attended.
- Currently not writing new EQIP contracts. Working on CSP.
- The District Conservationist in Upper Ohio CD has taken a job in Fairmont. Katie may have to cover the Upper Ohio CD.

NPCD

- David McCardle – Working with the soil trailer made David realize some things he missed about teaching. Spoke about students with soil trailer.
- Stephen Paull – Thank you to Mark for putting together the soil trailer week.
- James Caldwell – Enjoyed working with kids in the soil trailer and the WV Envirothon.

NEXT MEETING –The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in McMechen.

There being no further business, Chairman James Caldwell adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

James Caldwell, Chairman

David McCardle – Secretary

Minutes submitted by Veronica Gibson